

## INADVERTENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES DISCOVERY PLAN FOR SEQUIM, WASHINGTON

The following Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) outlines procedures to follow in accordance with state and federal laws, if archaeological materials or human remains are discovered.

In the event that any ground-disturbing activities or other project activities related to this development or in any future development uncover protected cultural material (e.g., bones, shell, antler, horn or stone tools),

**Recognizing Cultural Resources** – a cultural resource discovery could be prehistoric or historic.

Examples include:

1. An accumulation of shell, burned rocks, or other food related materials,
2. Bones or small pieces of bone,
3. An area of charcoal or very dark stained soil with artifacts,
4. Stone tools or waste flakes (i.e. an arrowhead, or stone chips),
5. Clusters of tin cans or bottles, logging or agricultural equipment that appears to be older than 50 years,
6. Buried railroad tracks, decking, or other industrial materials,
7. When in doubt, assume the material is a cultural resource.

### On-Site Responsibilities

1. **STEP 1: STOP WORK.** If anyone, including the contractor or subcontractor believes that he or she has uncovered a cultural resource at any point in the project, all work adjacent to the discovery must stop. The discovery location should be secured at all times.
2. **STEP 2: NOTIFY MONITOR.** If there is an archaeological monitor for the project, notify that person. If there is a monitoring plan in place, the monitor will follow its provisions.
3. **STEP 3: NOTIFY APPLICABLE CONTACTS:**

If the discovery is **human remains**, the City of Sequim, the City's agent or contractor will stop work in and adjacent to the discovery, completely secure the work area by moving the land-altering equipment to a reasonable distance no less than 100 feet, and will immediately contact:

- a. The City of Sequim City Engineer, Matt Klontz (360) 582-2472;
- b. The City of Sequim Police Department (360) 683-7227 and;
- c. The Clallam County Prosecutor's Office (County Coroner) (360) 417-2301;
- d. If the remains are not forensic in nature the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) Guy Tasa (360) 586-3534; will take the lead on

determining the appropriate method of treatment for the remains and will consult with the affected tribes;

- e. The professional archaeologist, if any, who's services have been retained by the City of Sequim in advanced of construction (see the Association for Washington Archaeology (AWA) Consultant list <http://washingtonarchaeology.org/consultants-list/>);

If human remains are encountered, treat them with dignity and respect at all times. Cover the remains with a tarp or other materials (not soil or rocks) for temporary protection in place and to shield them from being photographed. Do not call or speak with the media about the remains specifically.

If the discovery is **not human remains** and when an unanticipated discovery of protected cultural material (see definitions below) occurs, the City of Sequim, the City's agent or contractor will completely secure the location and contact:

- a. The City of Sequim City Engineer, Matt Klontz (360) 582-2472;
- b. A professional archaeologist whose services have been retained by the City of Sequim;
- c. The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) -Rob Whitlam, State Archeologist, (360) 586-3080 and Dr. Allyson Brooks, State Historic Preservation Officer (360) 586-3066;
- d. The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (David Brownell, Cultural Resource Specialist (360) 681-4638;
- e. Washington State Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water, Heather Walker (360) 236-3106.

### **Cultural Material Protected by Law**

Cultural material that may be protected by law could include but is not limited to:

1. Buried layers of black soil with layers of shell, charcoal, and fish and mammal bones (Figure 1).
2. Non-natural sediment or stone deposits that may be related to activity areas of people;
3. Stone, bone, shell, horn, or antler tools that may include projectile points (arrowheads), scrapers, cutting tools, wood working wedges or axes, and grinding stones (Figures 2 and 3);
4. Stone tools or stone flakes (Figures 2 and 3);
5. Buried cobbles that may indicate a hearth feature (Figure 4);
6. Old ceramic pieces, metal pieces, tools and bottles (Figures 5 and 6); and
7. Perennially damp areas may have preservation conditions that allow for remnants of wood and other plant fibers; in these locations there may be remains including:
  - a. Fragments of basketry
  - b. Weaving
  - c. wood tools
  - d. carved pieces
  - e. Human remains

### **Documentation of Archaeological Materials**

Archaeological deposits discovered during construction will be assumed eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D until a formal Determination of Eligibility is made. The City of Sequim will ensure the proper documentation and assessment of any discovered cultural resources in cooperation with the federal agencies (if any), Department of Health, DAHP, affected tribes, and a contracted consultant (if any).

All prehistoric and historic cultural material discovered during project construction will be recorded by a professional archaeologist on cultural resource site or isolate form using standard techniques. Site overviews, features, and artifacts will be photographed; stratigraphic profiles and soil/sediment descriptions will be prepared for subsurface exposures. Discovery locations will be documented on scaled site plans and site location maps.

Cultural features, horizons and artifacts detected in buried sediments may require further evaluation using hand-dug test units. Units may be dug in controlled fashion to expose features, collect samples from undisturbed contexts, or interpret complex stratigraphy. A test excavation unit or small trench might also be used to determine if an intact occupation surface is present. Test units will be used only when necessary to gather information on the nature, extent, and integrity of subsurface cultural deposits to evaluate the site's significance. Excavations will be conducted using state-of-the-art techniques for controlling provenience.

Spatial information, depth of excavation levels, natural and cultural stratigraphy, presence or absence of cultural material, and depth to sterile soil, regolith, or bedrock will be recorded for each probe on a standard form. Test excavation units will be recorded on unit-level forms, which include plan maps for each excavated level, and material type, number, and vertical provenience (depth below surface and stratum association where applicable) for all artifacts recovered from the level. A stratigraphic profile will be drawn for at least one wall of each test excavation unit.

Sediments excavated for purposes of cultural resources investigation will be screened through 1/8-inch mesh, unless soil conditions warrant ¼-inch mesh.

All prehistoric and historic artifacts collected from the surface and from probes and excavation units will be analyzed, catalogued, and temporarily curated. Ultimate disposition of cultural materials will be determined in consultation with the federal agencies (if any), Department of Health, DAHP, and the affected tribes.

Within 90 days of concluding fieldwork, a technical report describing any and all monitoring and resultant archaeological excavations will be provided to the City of Sequim City Engineer, who will forward the report to the for review and approval to the Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water. The Department of Health will approve and consult with the SHPO, and the affected tribe(s).

If assessment activity exposes human remains (burials, isolated teeth, or bones), the process described in Section 5 above will be followed.

### **Proceeding with Construction**

Project construction outside 100 feet of the discovery location may continue while documentation and assessment of the cultural resources proceed. A professional archaeologist must determine the boundaries of the discovery location. In consultation with the Department of Health, DAHP and any affected tribes, the City of Sequim City Engineer will determine the appropriate level of documentation and treatment of the resource. There is a federal nexus, therefore, Section 106 consultation and associated federal laws will make the final determinations about treatment and documentation.

Construction may continue at the discovery location only after the process outlined in this plan is followed and the City of Sequim, DAHP, any affected tribes, Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water (and the federal agencies, if any) determine that compliance with state and federal laws is complete.

**COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS PERTAINING TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES (RCW [27.53](#), [27.44](#) and WAC [25-48](#)) AND WITH HUMAN REMAINS (RCW [68.50](#)) IS REQUIRED. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS COULD RESULT IN A MISDEMEANOR AND POSSIBLE CIVIL PENALTIES AND/OR CONSTITUTE A CLASS C FELONY.**

## Examples of Archaeological Finds



**Figure 1: Shell midden**





**Figure 2: Example of stone tool**



**Figure 3: Example of stone flake and tools.**



**Figure 4: Example of hearth (oven) feature.**



**Figure 5: Example of historic artifacts from debris scatter.**





**Figure 6: Example of bottle from historic debris dump.**